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COMPLETION, FIRST PRODUCTION
OF NEW FINNISH NITRATE PLANT

[Information on graphics material is appended.]

Completion of the first nitrate plant in Finland, that of the Typpi Oy (Nitrate Corporation) in Oulu, was marked by an installation ceremony held in the plant's facilities in Laanila on 29 November 1952. The plant, construction of which began about 1 January 1951, produced its first shipment of domestic calcium-ammonium nitrate at the end of September 1952.

About 100 persons attended the ceremony, including Ministers Penna Tervo, E. Hunninen, and M. Miettunen as representatives of the government. Attending from West Germany were Friedrich Uhde, chief director of the Friedrich Uhde firm [probably the Friedr. Uhde, K.-G., Maschinenfabrik, Dortmund], and Dr H. Bonnemann, chief director, and Dr F. Totzek, director, both of the Heinrich Koppers Company [probably the Heinrich Koeppers, G.m.b.H., Feuerfeste Artikel, Duesseldorf-Heerd]; and from Sweden, Alben Johansson and H. Haakansson, directors of the Kooperativa Förbundet. Typpi Oy representatives present included Uno Takki, general manager and chairman of the Board of Directors, Eino E. Loahio, managing director and vice-chairman; Uolevi Raade, general manager and chairman of the executive committee; and K. Hillia, vice-chairman and director. Numerous other industrialists also attended.

In a speech at the ceremony, Jaakko Lehmus, managing director of the Typpi Oy, described the building of the repair shop and the ammonia synthesizing building. He said that synthetic ammonia was first produced on 1 September and domestic calcium-ammonium nitrate on 26 September 1952. He pointed out that the gas-producing section of this plant is the first of its type in the world.

Manager Takki said that the dream of 39 years is now a reality, and that this is a basic step whose effect will have far-reaching consequences for Finland. He said, however, that since the actual output will satisfy only a third

- 1 -

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of present Finnish needs, plans must soon be made for even greater nitrate production so that the future demand can, in the main, be satisfied by domestic production.

Commerce and Industry Minister Tervo thanked all Finnish citizens and foreigners whose efforts made possible the creation of the plant, which he termed of great significance in the building of the Finnish chemical industry.

Tervo stated that this plant, and the plant of the Rikkihappi- ja Superfosfatti-tehtaat Oy (Sulfuric Acid and Superphosphate Factories Corporation), now have the responsibility of developing the inorganic chemical industry in Finland. He said that the country's natural resources and unexploited metals must be made to serve the national economy to an even greater degree, particularly now that the throttling effect of foreign trade is beginning to extend to all phases of the economy. He added that, with these facts in mind, attention must turn to the chemical industry.

Chief Trustee V. Kilpinen thanked the firm for supplying work to the thousand or more construction workers.

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1. Location: Finland; Laanila, near Oulu

Caption and Description: "The Gas Generating Section of the Nitrate Plant. In the Foreground, the Side of the Gas Generating Section Building Which Connects to an Enclosed Overhead Bridge More Than 700 Meters Long, Containing the Pipes Which Carry the Gases and Fluids From One Building of the Plant to Another."

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Photograph Description: Size, 4 x 6 inches; fair; newsprint

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Helsingin Sanomat, Helsinki, 30 November 1953, page 22

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- 2 -

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